TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or *E. coli*	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or *E. coli*	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	No. of samples collected	90th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) (2011)	10	<5	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) (2011)	10	<0.05	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and year sampled)	Units	Average	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (2009)	ppm	11.3	8.9 – 16	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (2009)	ppm	34.1	19 – 53	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and year sampled)	Units	Average	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Nitrate (as NO_3)	ppm	1.0	ND – 3.6	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate	Ppb	ND	ND – 5.7	6	6	Environmental contamination from historic aerospace or other industrial operations that used or use, store, or dispose of perchlorate and its salts
Total Chromiun (2009)	Ppb	2.8	ND – 4.6	50	(100)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits.

ug/1 – micrograms per litter or parts per billion (ppb), mg/1 – milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm), **ntu** – nephelometric turbidity units, **Pci/1** – Picocuries per liter, **MCL** – Maximum contaminant level – the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal; the level of a contaminant in drinking water for which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the USEPA. MRDL – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. MRDLG – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. PDWS – Primary Drinking Water Standard; MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health

along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements. PHG – Public Health Goal; the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California EPA. **AL** – Regulatory Action Level: the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. ND – None Detected, Range – If detected, gives highest/lowest levels at sources, Average – Average levels of all sources tested.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and year sampled)	Units	Average	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (2009)	ppm	4.7	2.1 – 9.2	500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (2009)	Units	ND	ND - 5	15	None	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Iron (2009)	ppb	127	ND – 910	300	None	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance (2009)	µS/cm	133.6	22 – 210	1600	None	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (2009)	ppm	2.1	0.8 - .9	500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (2009)	ppm	114	78 – 160	1000	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (2009)	NTU	1.4	ND – 7	5	None	Soil runoff
Zinc (2009)	ppm	0.026	ND – 0.110	5.0	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCTS

Chemical or Constituent	Units	Highest Running Annual Average	Range of Detections	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) (MRDLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	ppb	7.6	7.6	80	None	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	ppm	0.34	0.27 – 0.39	4.0 (as Cl_2)]	4 (as Cl_2)]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

The Pine Cove Water District has 18 potable water wells. All of our wells pump into 1 of 2 loading lines that go directly to an aeration and/or filter plant, before entering into the distribution system. You have and will continue to be provided with an excellent quality of water. If you have any questions about this report, please call me at 951-659-2675.

Jerry Holldber, General Manager

GENERAL INFORMATION

Pine Cove Water District makes the quality of your drinking water one of our priorities. We produce water that meets or exceeds all State and Federal Standards for safe drinking water. We monitor your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The attached report shows the water contaminants that were detected during 2011 or the most recent sampling for the constituent. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

The water you drink comes from our eighteen wells located in the Pine Cove area. This water is aerated through our new aeration plant to remove approximately 80% of the carbon dioxide and raises the pH level from 6.3 to 7.2. This treatment provides the water customer with water that is less aggressive to pipes and plumbing.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances from the presence of animals or human activity. In order to insure that the tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants,* such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants,* such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides,* which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm runoff and residential use.
- *Organic chemical contaminants,* including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants,* which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

An assessment of the drinking water sources for the Pine Cove Water District was completed in December 2002 by the State of California Department of Health Services. The sources are most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: low density septic systems, sewer collections systems, and campgrounds/recreational areas. A copy of the assessment summary is available at the District Office.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Pine Cove Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Jerry Holldber, General Manager
Pine Cove Water District

PINE COVE WATER DISTRICT
WATER RATE SCHEDULE

The water rates established in the District are based on a Minimum Advance Residential Billing Unit of $25.00 per month. Billing is done every 2 months (Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec). This cost per month will be multiplied by the number of months (2) in a billing period. Water consumption for any Regular billing period will be charged as follows:

Usage from 0 to 6,000 gallons	$1.50 per thousand gallons
Usage from 6,000 to 12,000 gallons	$2.60 per thousand gallons
Usage from 12,000 to 18,000 gallons	$3.70 per thousand gallons
Usage from 18,000 to 24,000 gallons	$5.70 per thousand gallons
Usage from 24,000 to 30,000 gallons	$7.20 per thousand gallons
Usage over 30,000 gallons	$8.20 per thousand gallons

In the event a Water Shortage Emergency is declared, and Ordinance #8 is invoked, the following Water Rate Schedule will be imposed:

Stage I	Stage II	Stage III
$ 1.50/1000 0- 6,000 gal	$ 1.50/1000 0-5,000 gal	$ 1.50/1000 0-4,000 gal
$ 2.60/1000 6,000- 12,000 gal	$ 2.60/1000 5,000-10,000 gal	$ 3.95/1000 4,000-8,000 gal
$ 3.70/1000 12,000- 18,000 gal	$ 3.70/1000 10,000-15,000 gal	$ 7.70/1000 8,000-12,000 gal
$ 6.20/1000 18,000- 24,000 gal	$ 6.20/1000 15,000-20,000 gal	$15.20/1000 12,000-16,000 gal
$ 9.70/1000 24,000- 30,000 gal	$12.20/1000 20,000-25,000 gal	$30.20/1000 16,000-20,000 gal
$14.20/1000 over 30,000 gal	$26.60/1000 over 25,000 gal	$60.20/1000 over 20,000 gal

Water bills are mailed around the 1st of the Billing Month. All bills are due and payable by the 25th of the month billed. Any bill not paid by the 10th of the following month will be termed delinquent and subject to a $15.00 late fee and/or termination. A reconnect fee of $60.00 will be charged, in addition to current amount due, to re-establish service.

NON AVOIDANCE OF MINIMUM BILLING: Minimum Advance Billing and payment thereof is used for administrative expenses, minimum maintenance and fixed funding charges of the District and may not be avoided by seasonal disconnection of service with subsequent reconnection. All meters, active or inactive, will be billed advance minimum charges every two months.

WATER CONSERVATION STAGES

Stage I is voluntary compliance. Customers are asked to conserve, when possible, the amount of water used to that amount necessary for domestic and business purposes. Fix leaky plumbing, prevent irrigation runoff, refrain from washing down sidewalks, driveways and parking areas and avoid sprinkling unplanted areas for dust control. Customers are encouraged to utilize wood chips and mulch around all plants and trees to minimize outside watering.

Stage II is mandatory compliance. Customers are required to limit irrigation of outdoor plants and gardens to the period between 6:00 PM and 8:00 AM daily and stop all water runoff. Customers cannot fill or refill swimming pools except the small amount needed to replace evaporation in already filled pools. Vehicles can only be washed using a bucket and a hose with a shut-off nozzle. Immediate repairs must be made to any and all leaking water lines and faucets in household plumbing and yard piping. Customers must also cease watering native vegetation and unplanted areas for dust control. Restaurants shall only provide drinking water to patrons upon specific request.

Stage III IS MANDATORY EMERGENCY RESTRICTIONS. No water shall be used to irrigate outdoor plants, trees or landscaping of any kind, or any time. No water shall be added to swimming pools, hot tubs, or spas to replace evaporation loss or for any other purpose. No water shall be taken from fire hydrants for any reason except for fire emergencies or for the maintenance of system water quality. Water use for construction purposes shall be minimized and no water will be used for dust control, washing structures, sidewalks, driveways or parking areas. Washing motor vehicles and equipment is not allowed except from a bucket using a hose with a shut-off nozzle. In addition, water users shall make immediate repairs to any leaking line or faucet in household plumbing or yard piping.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, feel free to call the office at (951)659-2675, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, or you can contact us on our blog at www.pinecovewaterdistrict.blogspot.com.

Jerry Holldber, General Manager
PINE COVE WATER DISTRICT

2012 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Here in Pine Cove, there is no sewer system or waste treatment plant.

Onsite wastewater treatment systems, otherwise known as septic systems are used exclusively. When they are working properly, all is well and we barely pay them any mind. However, when they fail, you become very aware of them.

For many people that move to Pine Cove, this will be their first experience with a septic system. If you have never lived in a home with a septic system before, they can be somewhat of a mystery. By learning how a septic system works and how to maintain one, you can keep your system working properly for many years to come. It is important to remember that a malfunctioning septic system can contaminate groundwater and groundwater is where we get our drinking water from, so it is vital that septic systems are properly designed, constructed and maintained..

But how does a septic system actually work? Basically, a typical system has four main components: a pipe that runs from your home to the septic tank, the septic tank, which is buried in the ground, a drain field and the soil. Microbes in the soil digest or remove most contaminants from wastewater before it eventually reaches groundwater.

The septic tank holds the wastewater long enough to allow solids to settle out (forming sludge) and oil and grease to float to the surface (as scum). It also allows partial decomposition of the solid materials. Compartments and a T-shaped outlet in the septic tank prevent the sludge and scum from leaving the tank and traveling into the drain field area. The wastewater exits the septic tank and is discharged into the drain field for further treatment by the soil.

So how do you take care of your septic tank? First, it is a good idea to have your system inspected and pumped. Once that is done, there are four major factors that will influence how often you will need to have your tank pumped out. First is the number of people in the household, second is the amount of wastewater generated, third, the volume of solids in the wastewater and fourth is septic tank size.

Here are some tips to help you keep your septic system working properly:

Use water efficiently: The more water a household conserves, the less water enters the septic system. Install high efficiency toilets, faucet aerators and low flow shower heads. Take short showers and fix all leaks. Replace old dishwashers and washing machines with new, high efficiency models and run only when full.

Watch your drains: What goes down the drain can have a major impact on how well your septic system works. Do not flush dental floss, feminine hygiene products, diapers, cotton swabs, cigarette butts, coffee grounds, cat litter, paper towels and other kitchen and bathroom items that could clog and potentially damage septic systems components. Flushing household chemicals, gasoline, oil, pesticides, antifreeze and paint can stress or destroy the biological treatment taking place in the system or could contaminate surface waters and groundwater. Reduce the amount of floatable materials like fats, oils and grease. Eliminate the use of a garbage disposal and compost kitchen waste. Instead of using caustic drain openers for a clogged drain, try using baking soda, white vinegar and boiling water to get your drain running again. If that doesn't work, try using a drain snake to open clogs.

Caring for your drain field: Your drain field is an important part of your septic system. Do not park or drive vehicles on any part of your septic system. Doing so can compact the soil or damage the pipes, tank or other septic system components. Do not plant trees or shrubs over or near your septic system. Roots could clog or damage the drain field. Do not flood the drain field with water from rain spouting or drain hot tubs or swimming pools into the septic system or onto the drain field. Doing so could over load the system.

By following a few simple rules, you can keep you septic system running smoothly, year after year. Maintaining your septic tank will save you money and protect your health and the environment. Remember, preventing a septic problem is much easier and cheaper than fixing one.

Article by: Vicki Jakubac, Conservation Specialist

PINE COVE WATER DISTRICT

Located at:
24917 Marion Ridge Rd.,
Next door to the Pine Cove Fire Department

Mailing address:
PO Box 2296
Idyllwild, CA 92549-2296
Phone: 951-659-2675
Fax: 951-659-3112
Visit our Website @
www.pcwd.org
AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY #:
951-294-8282

Best Drinking Water on the Hill!

Conserve today, and we'll have water for the future

Jerry Holldber, General Manager & Stitch

Reasons to Harvest Rain

Rain water harvesting is an option that we feel is an excellent way for people in this community to provide water for their outdoor irrigation needs, and even other non-potable applications such as toilet flushing, thereby conserving precious ground water. Setting up a system to harvest rain water is fairly simple and inexpensive and it accomplishes several goals.

Harvesting rainwater makes use of the precipitation that occurs naturally.

Helps to preserve our water shed by collecting and storing the water that would normally just run off our roofs and down the street.

Provides a source of water for outdoor irrigation during the long dry summer months thereby providing habitat for small animals and birds and keeping the fire danger down because green, healthy plants and trees don't burn as quickly as dry, dying plants and trees.

Rainwater harvesting is an age-old technology, dating back to ancient Rome. It is low tech and is simple to set up and maintain a rainwater harvesting system.

Rainwater is a source of water that is commonly overlooked my most communities, but it is one that is easily harvested, unlike drilling wells.

Reduces the volume of potable water used for non-potable applications, thereby reducing the amount of water removed from ground wells.

It would allow people to grow fruits and vegetables and become more self-sufficient, which will be necessary should a disaster befall us and we become isolated.

OFFICE INFORMATION

Office is open 9-4 Monday-Friday.

We accept Visa/MC/Discover for your convenience.

Our Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, at 10:00 am, in our Board Room at the office. Our Customers are encouraged to join us.

Come into the office in June to make your payment, bring your children, and they receive a free ice cream or popsicle, courtesy of our General Manager, Jerry Holldber, and his loyal sidekick Stitch.

We have a few new neighbors in Pine Cove this Summer! Welcome to the neighborhood! Just a reminder that we bill every other month, on the even months. Your bill is due by the 25th of that month, and subject to disconnection if not paid in full., by the 10th of the following month. Remember to shut your water off, at your customer valve when you leave your mountain home. You are responsible for all water that goes thru the meter. If you need us to shut it off for you, please call the office. You will be charged $15.00 for this service call.

Becky Smith, Office Manager